

APSU Writing Center
QEC Note-Taking Method

Q/E/C (Question–Evidence–Conclusion) Note-Taking Method

- Useful for subjects such as history, philosophy, and literature.
- Focuses on capturing key ideas and the connections between arguments and evidence.
- Emphasizes understanding and evaluation of ideas.
- Supports argumentative and analytical essay planning.
- Helps track the relationship between the overall topic, evidence, and conclusions.

How to use the QEC Note-Taking Method

- Divide the page into two or three sections.
- Begin each section with a guiding question.
- Write concise notes beneath the question.
- Include key quotations, facts, data, and examples.
- Conclude each section with a statement that answers the question or forms a thesis.

QEC Note-Taking Examples:

Question

- How does the QEC Method work?

Evidence

- Concise Sentences
- Use Bullet Points
- Include Quoted Examples

Conclusion

- Answer the question in a couple of sentences.
- Summarize the key points.

Question

- Why did the French Revolution occur?

Evidence

- Economic inequality
- Enlightenment ideas
- Financial Crisis

Conclusion

- The French Revolution was caused by a combination of social inequality and economic instability influenced by Enlightenment thinking.



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References

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